

social programs. It has a proven track record of helping women deliver more healthy babies. Women in WIC are more likely to receive prenatal care. It has proven to lower the medical expenses of pregnant women. In fact, the Government Accounting Office estimates that every dollar spent on WIC saves \$3.50 in Social Security and Medicaid benefits. Additionally, and perhaps most importantly, WIC has been linked to improved cognitive development among children.

In my district alone, a total of 60,115 women, infants, and children benefit from this nutrition program each month. This includes 12,641 infants, 34,293 children under the age of five, 6,231 pregnant women, and 6,850 postpartum/breast-feeding women. These numbers speak for themselves and tell why it is WIC is so important to so many in south Texas.

There are those who believe that the WIC Program is adequately funded. I, however, am not one of those and must take issue. WIC needs to be better funded, and should receive full supplemental funding at the administration's \$78 million request.

Our Nation cannot afford to ignore the health and well being of our women, children and infants. Reducing nutrition programs geared toward the most vulnerable of our citizens is not the answer to reducing the budget deficit.

While I am new to these halls, one subject I hear discussed regularly is health care. WIC, in my eyes, is one of the best health care programs in place today, and as such, it is an outstanding investment in our Nation's future. By supporting this we are supporting better health for our Nation's children. This must always be among our foremost priorities here in Congress.

RECOGNITION OF GEN. RANDALL RIGBY

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 13, 1997

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct privilege to represent Fort Sill, OK, in the U.S. Congress. Since 1902, tens of thousands of U.S. Army personnel have trained and have raised their families at Fort Sill and the neighboring city of Lawton, and many of these same men and women have retired near the post and built a community of families, businesses, and friends. In the Army and in Oklahoma, we are very proud of Fort Sill and its contributions to Oklahoma and to the Nation.

We are also proud of the fact that Fort Sill has always been blessed with outstanding

leadership, and its current commander, Gen. Randy Rigby, is no exception. General Rigby came to Fort Sill as commander in June of 1995, 25 years after his first official arrival at the fort as a second lieutenant and student in the field artillery officer basic course. Even then, however, he was no stranger to Fort Sill since General Rigby is a native of neighboring Lawton, OK. In fact, General Rigby did his undergraduate schooling in Oklahoma. He then went on to build a distinguished record of military service that represents the absolute finest of that which we respect in our military's leadership.

Fort Sill has been blessed by General Rigby's strong and inspiring leadership. His dedication to the highest standards have reverberated through every corner of this important military facility.

Regretfully, in the Army, the time always comes when it's time to move on, and the Army has found a new and challenging position for General Rigby in Washington, DC. The Lawton/Fort Sill community will sorely miss Randy and his remarkable wife Carol who have been such extraordinary good neighbors in both the personal and the professional sense.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish Randy and Carol the very best for continued good success as they move on to their new assignment in the Nation's Capitol.

MOTHERS AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING YOUTH SUMMIT

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 13, 1997

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, all too often the headlines we read about young people today are punctuated with tragedy and violence. Today, however, I have a positive story to tell about young people from every congressional district who are here today to make a difference.

Today, 435 kids from across the Nation will be visiting each and every one of us to talk about what they are doing to stop underage drinking and driving. In California, where I am from, drinking related accidents accounted for more than 40 percent of traffic fatalities during 1995.

You might be surprised to learn that eight young people a day die in alcohol-related crashes. Many of us read and hear about the kids addicted to crack cocaine, heroin, and marijuana, but the No. 1 drug among young people is alcohol and it kills.

However, the young people visiting our offices today are working to change that. Over the weekend they met to discuss solutions to

this problem and will discuss their finding with each of us. I listened carefully to both Marlana Plummer from El Camino High School and Anne Carriker from Carlsbad High School. I urge you to place close attention to the high school students visiting your offices.

I applaud these young people for their dedication and commitment. I look forward to the day when the headlines about young people are punctuated with their accomplishments rather than their tragedies.

TRIBUTE TO DANNY MASTRO

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 13, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant Danny Mastro. It is a privilege to recognize someone like Sergeant Mastro who has consistently served the area while wearing his Los Angeles Police Department uniform as well as a volunteer in the community.

Sergeant Mastro's enthusiasm and leadership have served as a catalyst to his colleagues on the force, as they have joined him in his many community efforts. When those closest to Danny are asked what drives him the reply is simple: He cares about his community, especially its children.

In 1992, Sergeant Mastro created an antigang, antidrug billboard campaign directed at the youth of our community. Danny took this innovative idea and made it a reality. He raised several thousand dollars in donations to pay for printing costs and was able to get local companies to donate over 100 billboards. The billboards pictured Sergeant Mastro with a local hockey and football star and the slogan "Who Is Your Role Model Going to Be?" It is my sincere hope that the children of Los Angeles will follow Danny's lead and choose people like him as their role models.

Danny has played a vital role in numerous volunteer activities and community development programs. As part of an antigang unit, he counseled at-risk youths teaching them to focus their energy away from violence toward more productive and meaningful activities. He has galvanized support within the LAPD for several fund raising drives. He has also volunteered extensively in the Special Olympics, the Boy Scouts, and the local Head-Start Program. Indeed, the Sergeant has freely given of himself to his community.

Danny's presence in the community and on the force is a sure indicator that the strong ties will continue to be forged between the people of Los Angeles and the LAPD. I salute him for his efforts.